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July 14, 2005

Kevin J. Martin
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D. C. 20554

Dear Mr. Martin:

I am writing today in regards to the recent decision which you and some of the other commissioners took to extend the deadline for requiring a written, signed authorization prior to sending unsolicited facsimiles to my home.

We have a fax machine in our home to assist with our volunteer work. That number is shared with our house phone line using distinctive ringing to signal the fax machine to answer. That number rings at all hours of day and night, often waking us from sound sleep. They are always unsolicited advertisements for vacations, hot stocks or pharmaceuticals. They are all from companies which I have had no prior business relationship. They are all unwanted.

I have been following the commission's ruling on this, and was waiting in eager anticipation for July 1, when the torrent would stop. (Or at least I might have the tools to help it stop.) Imagine my surprise when the fax line kept on ringing and ringing with this junk! Imagine my greater surprise to find that the commission, at the last minute, caved to these nefarious businesses and extended AGAIN the deadline for the rule implementation!

Your rule was signed in July of 2003, and gave more than sufficient time for implementation by January of 2005. That is 18 months, plenty of time for businesses with good intentions to comply with the rule. The Commission then extended the deadline to June 30, 2005. And we suffered with another 6 months of junk faxes. Now you extend the deadline again. These companies have no intention of complying with your ruling. They simply want more time to conduct their businesses, annoying each and every recipient of this garbage.

I have a simple desire: Get a backbone and stop the delays.


Chris Altwegg

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